

News Release

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PUBLIC WORKS DIVISION PUBLISHES ACCESSIBILITY SELF EVALUATION REPORT

FREDERICK, MD – The Frederick County Division of Public Works (DPW) announced the release of a county-wide <u>Self Evaluation Report</u> in response to its ongoing effort to comply with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) pedestrian accessibility standards.

Earlier this year, the division inspected all pedestrian facilities within county road rights-of-way to determine if they comply with current ADA accessibility standards. The survey inventoried all existing sidewalks and curb ramps and identified pedestrian facilities that were not accessible according to the standards found in the "Americans with Disabilities Act Standards for Transportation Facilities," adopted by the U.S. Department of Transportation in 2006, and field methodology developed by the Maryland State Highway Administration.

The self evaluation found that approximately 13 percent of the county's 153.87 miles of sidewalks did not comply with applicable standards. Approximately 97 percent of a total of 2,296 curb ramps were identified as non-compliant.

The results of this survey will be used to develop a transition plan that will work toward addressing all non-compliant facilities identified during the survey. The plan will serve as a baseline for pedestrian facility accessibility, and will be used to monitor the county's progress toward the goal of providing accessible pedestrian facilities in county rights of way.

In addition to the survey, many residents provided input for the report regarding existing pedestrian accessibility needs along county roads and any barriers to accessibility they currently face. The county continues to welcome comments or suggestions during the development of the transition plan.

To view the report, visit www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/accessibility. For more information, contact Project Manager David Olney, Office of Transportation Engineering, at 301-600-2930 or via e-mail at dolney@FrederickCountyMD.gov.